

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for relocating a network subnet to a remote location, comprising:

allocating a block of routable network addresses for use in a relocated network subnet at the remote location, the routable network addresses being hidden from the network subnet by an intervening NAT residing between the network subnet and the relocated network subnet;

connecting the relocated network subnet to a tether router, the tether router separate from the NAT;

establishing a tunnel from the network subnet to the ~~relocated network subnet~~ tether router; and

configuring one or more services at the relocated network subnet; and receiving, from a node in the relocated network subnet using one of the routable network addresses, data packets transmitted over the tunnel;

wherein the tunnel is configured to circumvent ~~traverse a the NAT from encumbering communication between the network subnet and the relocated network subnet~~ such that the data packets transmitted over the tunnel bypass the NAT.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the routable network addresses comprise static IP addresses.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the routable network addresses are contiguous.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the allocating a block of routable network addresses is performed by a lease broker.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more services comprises a routing configuration at the relocated network subnet for enabling communications over the tunnel.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more services comprises a DNS server.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more services comprises a DHCP server.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more services comprises a mail server.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the tunnel is configured to automatically reconnect in response to a change in an address associated with one of the components of the tunnel.

13. (Currently amended) A system for subnet relocation, comprising:
an anchor router coupled to a routable network;
a tether router located remotely from the anchor router;
a remote subnet coupled to the tether router, the subnet comprising a plurality of nodes, the nodes corresponding to a block of relocated routable network addresses, wherein the tether router is located behind at least one NAT such that the routable network addresses are not directly visible to the routable network; and
a tunnel between the anchor router and the tether router, wherein the tether router comprises a processor configured to enable the tunnel is configured to traverse circumvent a the at least one NAT from encumbering

~~communication between the routable network and the relocated network subnet~~ such that data packets sent between the anchor router and the tether router over the tunnel bypass the at least one NAT.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the tunnel is configured to transmit packets comprising an encapsulation protocol.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the block of routable network addresses is allocated to a user by a lease broker.

19. (Currently amended) A computing apparatus for establishing a remote subnet, comprising:

a tether router; and

a processor configured to establish a tunnel from the tether router to an anchor router, the anchor router coupled to a network that is remotely located from the remote subnet, wherein a block of routable addresses are allocated to a user, the block of addresses corresponding to the remote subnet, the tether router for relocating establishing one or more communications ports for the remote subnet; wherein the tether router is located behind a NAT such that the routable addresses are not directly visible to the network, and wherein the tunnel is configured to traverse circumvent a the NAT from encumbering communication between the anchor router and the relocated network subnet such that data packets sent over the tunnel between the anchor router and the tether router bypass the NAT.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the processor is configured to establish the tunnel such that the tunnel automatically reconnects in response to an event that causes a temporary disconnection of the tunnel.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein a heartbeat signal is periodically emitted across the tunnel.

25. (Currently amended) A method for connecting to a network subnet from a local network terminal, the network subnet in a remote location, comprising:

allocating a block of routable network addresses for use in the network subnet at the remote location;

establishing a tunnel from a anchor router to a remote tether router coupled to the network subnet, wherein the anchor router is local to and coupled to the local network terminal; ~~and~~

configuring one or more services at the network subnet; and
receiving, at the local network terminal from one of the routable network addresses at the remote location, data packets over the tunnel;

wherein the tunnel is configured to ~~traverse~~ circumvent a mechanism from ~~encumbering communication~~ NAT between the local network terminal and the network subnet such that data packets bypass the NAT.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the mechanism comprises ~~one of a NAT and a firewall.~~